

Federal Council BULLETIN



A. Devaney Photo

Coming Events . . .

Federal Council of Churches, Department of the Church and Economic Life
Columbus, Ohio, March 4-6, 1948

Federal Council of Churches, Executive Committee
New York, N. Y., March 16, 1948

National Conference of Church Leaders,
Hampton, Va., March 31, April 1,
1948

Inter-Council Field Department
Cleveland, Ohio, April 5, 6, 1948

General Commission on Chaplains
Washington, D. C., April 14, 1948

General Conference of the Methodist Church
Boston, Mass., April 28, 1948

African Methodist Episcopal Zion General Conference
Louisville, Ky., May 5-19, 1948

Federal Council of Churches, Executive Committee
New York, N. Y., May 18, 1948

General Synod of the Reformed Church in America
Buck Hill Falls, Pa., May 20-25, 1948

Northern Baptist Convention
Milwaukee, Wis., May 24-30, 1948

General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church
New Wilmington, Pa., May 26, 1948

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.
Seattle, Wash., May 27, 1948

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S.
Atlanta, Ga., May 27, 1948

Annual Convocation, Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod of N. A.
Rock Island, Ill., June 10, 1948

General Council of Congregational Christian Churches
Oberlin, Ohio, June 17-24, 1948

Seventh Day Baptist General Conference
North Loup, Neb., August 17-22, 1948

First Assembly, World Council of Churches,
Amsterdam, Holland, Aug. 22-Sept. 4, 1948

Church Pensions Conference
New York, N. Y., December 1-2, 1948

Federal Council Bulletin

A Journal of Interchurch Coöperation

Issued by

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA

CONSTITUTED BY TWENTY-FIVE NATIONAL COMMUNIONS

National Baptist Convention
Northern Baptist Convention
Church of the Brethren
General Council of Congregational Christian Churches
Czech-Moravian Brethren
International Convention of Disciples of Christ
Evangelical and Reformed Church
Evangelical United Brethren Church Friends
The Methodist Church
African M. E. Church
African M. E. Zion Church
Colored M. E. Church in America

Moravian Church
Presbyterian Church in U. S. A.
Presbyterian Church in U. S.
Protestant Episcopal Church
Reformed Church in America
Russian Orthodox Church of North America
Seventh Day Baptist General Conference
Syrian Antiochian Orthodox Church of North America
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of America
United Church of Canada
United Lutheran Church (Consultative Body)
United Presbyterian Church

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The Editorial Outlook

FATHER OF LIGHTS

"Father of lights, in whom there is no shadow,
Giver of every good and perfect gift!
With one accord we seek Thy holy presence,
Gladly our hearts to Thee in praise we lift.

Glad for the cause that binds our lives
together,
Through Thee united, worshipping as one:
Glad for the crowning gift that Thou hast
given,
Sending, to light the world, Thine only Son.

Light of the world, through whom we know
the Father!

Pour out upon us Thine abiding love,
That we may know its depth and height and
splendor,

That heaven may come to earth from
heaven above.

By ELIZABETH WILSON and HELEN THOBURN
By permission of The Woman's Press

THE CHURCHES AND E.R.P.

THE debate in Congressional Committees on the European Recovery Program, or Marshall Plan, is being followed with genuine interest by the churches of Christ in America. This interest, in the judgment of the Federal Council's Executive Committee, is derived from the conviction that E.R.P. "can be one of history's most momentous affirmations of faith in the curative power of freedom and in the creative capacity of free men."

It is heartening that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has unanimously approved the European Recovery Program. There is need, however, for the churches to manifest their continuing interest and support since it is by no means certain that this recovery program will emerge, from what is expected to be a long and heated debate, without crippling amendments.

As this debate gets under way it will be ad-

visable for Christians to keep their minds focused upon the central purpose to be served by the European Recovery Program. That purpose is not primarily relief but reconstruction. The impartial testimony embodied in the first economic report of the Department of Economic Affairs of the United Nations supports this view. "It is apparent now" the report says "that the extent of the impoverishment of Europe as a result of the war had not been fully realized and that the substantial amount of external aid made available thus far has not been sufficient to restore the European economy to a level which would enable the countries of Europe to be self-supporting."

The churches do not have the competence to pass judgment on the strictly technical and administrative phases of the European Recovery Program. They are competent to pass judgment on the motivation by which this recovery program is directed and by which it is implemented. The cost in dollars and cents—a cost which approximates that of two and a half weeks of World War II—can be borne by the American people. It remains to be seen, however, whether or not our people, in and out of the churches, and in and out of Congress, have the vision and statesmanship which will be required if the European Recovery Program is to serve the curative and creative purposes envisaged for it by the Christian leadership of our nation.

If the European Recovery Program is to meet the expectations of the churches, the policies by which that plan is carried forward must be of a kind to advance not only the economic and political but also the moral solidarity of Western Europe and thereafter of the entire Continent. No permanently healing influence can be exerted by the Marshall Plan if that plan is misused as an instrument of coercion in a 'cold war.' The churches are wholly in agreement with Secretary of State Marshall that E.R.P. "is directed not against any country or doctrine but against hunger, poverty, desperation and chaos."

It is in this spirit that the churches have supported the European Recovery Program and it is in this spirit that they will evaluate the Congressional debate.

A NEW KIND OF TITHE

A CONSTRUCTIVE example of Christian stewardship which deserves wide attention is reported from Newton, Mass. Two members of the Second Church, husband and wife, have set aside one-tenth of their capital to be administered as a trust for the benefit of their church and certain other Christian causes.

Here is a new application of the Biblical principle of the tithe. Not content with tithing their current income, these friends have tithed their capital funds also.

The first priority in the use of the annual return from the trust is the local church of which they are members. It has served the community for over 165 years and they desire to have a part in insuring its uninterrupted ministry during the long future. The vision of the donors, however, is not confined to the town in which they live and they have therefore directed that part of the income shall be used for foreign missions and other great objectives of the Church at large.

If enough Christian people would form such tithing trusts, the support of the Church and its future growth would be assured.

FAITH CAN COME ALIVE AGAIN

Is there anything left to believe in, after the shattering experience of war, the loss of loved ones, the negation of every decency, the fragmentation of all social patterns, the frustrations of two years of "peace"! Can goodness rise through the gloom of suffering and despair?

Such are the wonderings of millions around the globe in these dark days. But the familiar phrase rings again: "God so loved the world . . ." Well, did He? Does He now? How do you know that?

All these questions present a supreme summons to the Christians of the world, particularly those of us in America, spared and favored so far above our deserts. First, we must renew and strengthen our own inner confidences, make our Christianity real in every aspect of our own thought and life and proclaim by demonstration the meaning of divine sonship, its true goals, its radiant possibilities.

And second, we must—and we can—renew and strengthen the confidences of our fellows. We have, through our gifts of food and clothing, helped in their grim survival. With the winter past, they are doing all that they can to rebuild homes and shops and churches, to plant again

their fields so long fertilized in blood. Now our further gifts are called for, even more generously, to restore a Christian content to this emergent recovery. Even if economic levels are substantially lifted, even if political stability comes soon, life needs more than prosperity and peace. It still needs—yes, more than ever—God.

Can money buy God, and with Him fill the emptiness of living? No, of course not. But our gifts can help people to find God again—to rediscover the Christian Gospel of forgiveness, of repentance, of love, of joy. As our colleagues in Geneva put it: "Only the Spirit of God can revive the churches," but through our worldwide cooperative program, linking together in close bonds of brotherhood our own denominations, Church World Service, the World Council of Churches, and the many National Committees, all of us can help "to provide the Spirit with those instruments which will enable Him to work His will through the churches."

For example, there are devoted preachers and Christian workers in all lands, their souls refined by the fires of their own suffering, who are eager to proclaim as never before the message of Christ—if only we will undergird their ministry. There are bewildered youth looking for guidance, and our gifts can help provide leadership to point them to the One who is "the Way, the Truth, and the Life." There are the homeless and hopeless refugees, the uprooted ones, and the uncounted numbers of orphans whose welfare beyond basic subsistence is a prime concern for all Christians. There are ruined churches that must be rebuilt or repaired, that they may once again gather in the spiritually hungry souls and send them forth refreshed, fed with the Bread of Life.

In Japan and China, Finland and Greece, Okinawa, Holland, Siam, Germany—everywhere the fields of human hearts are white for the harvest.

The day of miracles is not past. "What is that in thine hand?" Not, perchance a rod, but a dollar—a worldly trifle. Give it to God and it becomes alive—not indeed as a serpent—but as a means of bringing to the sick of soul a touch of healing, the word of life, the resurgence of faith, and its own Christian fulfillment!

ROBBINS W. BARSTOW

Editor's Note: We hope that the guest editorial by Dr. Barstow will be used widely by our readers with their congregations and friends. More adequate support must be found for the overseas aid programs of our churches. The Church World Service goal for 1948 is reported on page 14.

Final Planning Session Is Held

AMSTERDAM PREPARATIONS NEAR COMPLETION

BY HENRY SMITH LEIPER

ON the evening of the last day of the recent World Council committee meetings, a remarkable press conference highlighted the interest which Europe manifests in the coming World Assembly of the Churches set for Amsterdam this summer. Sixty-eight journalists had responded to the invitation sent out by Dr. Visser 't Hooft and Dr. Frederick Reissig. It was a very stormy night with the streets deep in snow—which is unusual in Geneva. Setting a record for size, the press conference—larger than any since the days of the League at Geneva—likewise set a record for sustained interest. For more than two hours the press representatives from all over the world listened to brief statements or reflected concerns which had not been dealt with. Not a single reporter left until the conference was adjourned by Dr. 't Hooft.

What was it all about? Mainly about the achievements, the present activities, and the plans of the World Council—particularly as related to the Assembly. Two of the co-chairmen of the Council attended the press conference: Archbishop Germanos and Dr. Marc Boegner. So did Martin Niemoeller and the General Secretaries. All of them were kept busy answering questions. And, surprisingly enough, only one question of the evening was so plainly political as to require being ruled out of order!

Since all this happened at the end of the sessions it might perhaps be regarded as out of place in the opening paragraphs of this account. It is purposely brought into the foreground of the picture, however, as an indication of the unusual interest attaching to the great cooperative undertaking in which the Churches are engaged.

The Geneva sessions comprised meetings of the Assembly Arrangements Committee under the able chairmanship of Dr. S. M. Cavert; the Administrative Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Boegner; and the Study Commission under the leadership of Dr. Henry P. Van Dusen. Notably every member of the Administrative

Committee was present from Dr. John R. Mott, Senior Chairman of the Council, to the youngest secretary. The sessions were held in the room at the Council headquarters which was recently furnished by the William Adams Brown Fund as a memorial to his devoted leadership in the ecumenical movement for the last quarter century of his life. (Incidentally it was interesting to note that of the forty persons present from many parts of the world, almost three quarters had been the guests of the Churches in America at one or another period in recent years.)

The Assembly Committee, as its name suggests, is responsible for the arrangements, the program, and the financing of the Amsterdam meeting. It was cheered and stimulated by the account which friends brought from Holland of the loyal and generous response of the Churches there. They have set themselves a goal of 100,000 guilders to handle local expenses. Considerable difficulties have had to be met in the matter of housing because

of the congested housing situation and the many limitations on food and other supplies as a result of post-war conditions in Holland. Yet all essential needs are in the way of being met.

The selection of speakers, committee and discussion chairmen, the arranging of schedules, plans for worship, and a hundred and one details occupied the committee through busy days and nights. Even more time was required for the problems of the post-Amsterdam work of the Council. It is now clear that probably as many as 140 denominations will be represented, including a very significant proportion of the Younger Churches. All plans for a world organization have to take into account the representation of the many confessional elements, distance, and language! By great fortune and the kindness of Mr. Thomas A. Watson of the International Business Machines Corporation, many of the language difficulties will be successfully overcome. This will be through the use



Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert (left), General Secretary of the Federal Council, confers with Mr. Eckering, secretary of the Amsterdam Committee on Arrangements, and the Bishop of Chichester (right) at the Geneva headquarters of the World Council of Churches.

of the newest system of radio equipment for instantaneous translation.

High on the agenda of the Administrative Committee came the question of the further organization of the Council and the enrichment of its service to the Churches—so notably begun in the decade which ends with the Amsterdam Assembly. A long and careful report was adopted for the delegates, and certain recommendations, subject to their approval, amendment or substitution, were considered. Among these is the development of a Department of Evangelism; the opening jointly with the International Missionary Council of an East Asia Office; the enlargement of the budget by about \$40,000 annually to meet definite anticipated needs; and the decentralization of the administration of the Council. The plan contemplates four world offices: Geneva, London, East Asia, and New York. It also contemplates the addition of a chairman from the Churches of Asia, not now represented in the Presidium.

But it would be an error to conclude that attention was given solely to machinery and organizational detail. Much prayerful consideration was devoted to the important question of what type of statement the Assembly should expect to make to the Churches in view of the deepening world crisis. A carefully considered report may be expected in due course from the able persons to whom was committed this difficult but inescapable concern.

It is obviously impossible for the Assembly to adjourn without sending some message to the Christian world which will be really worthy of such an impressive assembly for the administration of practical Christian unity. This matter was under discussion and a number of notable things were said. The Bishop of Chichester, for example, warned the Committee that the churches must avoid platitudes and that "theological diagnoses and analyses are not enough." Bishop Berggrav of Norway spoke of "the spirit of deep despair of people in the modern situation" and of the great responsibility resting upon the churches. Pastor Niemoeller emphasized the importance of demonstrating peace and unity within the Church itself, and Dr. Mott emphasized his belief that "this time of man's extremity is God's opportunity." It remained for Dr. 't Hooft himself to sum up the matter in his observation that "the people of the world have become obsessed with the feeling that everything is political. We have to show the human element and the

human relationship behind it all. The Church does not have the answer; the Gospel does have the answer. The Church is too much a part of the confused world. A statement must come out of the heart of the conference to the world of today."

The latter days of the two weeks of almost constant meetings were devoted to the work of the Study Commissions which are preparing the four or five volumes of preliminary reports dealing with the Assembly theme in its various aspects. Thanks to the long and faithful labors of a host of scholars in many parts of the world, the elaborate preparatory work has been practically completed and on February 15 copy for the volumes was ready for the printers. When one considers the languages that have to be employed; the differing idioms; the varied theological traditions; and the difficulties of communication, this is little short of a miracle of planning and accomplishment. Great credit for it goes to a widely scattered company of hardworking men and women: But particular mention must be made of Dr. Nils Ehrenstrom, Director of the Study Department; Dr. Van Dusen, Chairman of the Department; Rev. Robert S. Bilheimer, Dr. Clarence Craig and the secretary of the American Advisory Committee; as well as the four Commission chairmen. No one who has dipped into the documents which will go into these volumes can fail to be impressed with the range and depth and relevance of the material which they contain dealing with the great subject of "Man's Disorder and God's Design."

The reports presented at Geneva indicate that almost all of the member Churches have appointed their delegates and alternates. The amount of interest shown by would-be visitors is healthy and welcome, although somewhat embarrassing in view of the difficulties of transport and entertainment at Amsterdam where limitations beyond the imagination of most Americans must be reckoned with.

Two very important matters must be mentioned in conclusion. Both have to do with the mundane but essential matter of support. The world economic crisis has brought about conditions in which the only money in free exchange is now American or Swiss. Many of the Churches which have raised funds for the work cannot send them out of their respective countries. This throws an added responsibility upon the American Churches. One dares to hope that

when they consider what is at stake they will respond generously and understandingly. The startling fact is that while before the war an American had on the average seven times the income of the rest of mankind, he now has fourteen times as much. What is impossible for the Churches on the other side of the sea is a very small matter for Churches which have announced their intention of investing almost a billion dollars simply in improving, renovating or replacing their buildings—already the best in the world and all completely free from the ravages of war!

The really important "support" for the world Assembly is spiritual, intellectual and personal. But man, who does not live by bread alone, cannot live at all without it; and the consummation of the high purposes to which the leaders of the Churches have consecrated their best thought and effort will depend now upon the means of paying the modest bills! And if each of the members of all the constituent Churches in America were to contribute one cent in 1948 all the bills for Amsterdam and all the current budget of the World Council would be oversubscribed. Does it take too much faith to believe that this too will be accomplished?

But the second problem of support is even more grave and more difficult. At the Geneva meeting, a review was made of the problems of the Department of Reconstruction and Inter-Church Aid and a very grave situation was revealed.

Without any blame attaching to anyone, the simple fact is that the amount of money available for the activities of the Department had seriously decreased over the preceding year despite the fact that there were increases in some of the giving countries including America, in amounts made available for all types of overseas inter-church aid.

The Administrative Committee in taking note of this fact said "The continuing needs of the churches are great both on the material side and on the spiritual side. The material relief is needed particularly by the institutions and members of both the Protestant and Eastern Orthodox Churches. The flow of food and clothing from the more fortunate lands has done much to help the less fortunate. Nevertheless, it is the judgment of the Committee that the greater task of the Department is to provide for the spiritual reconstruction and rehabilitation of church life on the Continent.

A program of spiritual aid, if the Department provides sufficient funds, would contribute to those plans and projects of the churches which are so vital to the reviving of Christian life on the Continent of Europe. The need for such a program of spiritual reconstruction is self-evident as is the fact that the support for such a program is the specific obligation of the churches, and the provision of all material aid without the provision of spiritual aid would leave the churches unable to cope with the unprecedented task which confronts them."

It is to be fervently hoped that in the coming months the churches in America will find ways to lift the level of their giving for the spiritual rehabilitation of Churches and church programs of Education and Evangelism both in Asia and in Europe. The action of the past is creditable and no one could wish to appear critical of the eager response which Americans have shown to the call for physical relief even though it has tended to obscure the fact that certain other types of aid are just as desperately needed if churches are to fulfil their future task.



Looking at a new poster announcing the first assembly of the World Council of Churches are (left to right): Bishop Andrei of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church; Bishop Arne Fjellbu of the Lutheran Church of Norway; and Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of the Methodist Church. The three met at a recent reception in New York.

1948 Ashrams Are Announced

FOR eight successive years Ashrams have been conducted in this country by the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council, making a significant contribution to the life of the Church and the multitudes of individuals who have come under their influence. The Ashrams have reached directly from 750 to 1,000 people each year and have exercised an indirect influence upon a far greater number. Dr. E. Stanley Jones has commented thus on the purpose of the Ashram:

"In a conference people confer to get verbal answers to verbal questions. In a Retreat they listen to a spiritual message and then each person goes off alone to examine his life and improve it. Those in an Ashram try not merely to find an answer but to *be* an answer. In some real way they attempt to become in miniature form the Kingdom of God realized. This Corner of the Kingdom is to let those in attendance and others, see what the

Kingdom of God is when embodied in corporate living. To this end they try to get down all barriers of race, class and group and also to break down all inner barriers which break fellowship with God and each other. The Ashrams, then, are primarily a corporate quest for the larger understanding and the better realization of the Kingdom of God. The Family of God becomes a fact beyond differences of denomination, race and class."

The places and dates for the four 1948 Ashrams are as follows: Bynden Wood Camp, Wernersville, Pennsylvania, July 6-16; Geneva Point Camp, Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire, July 19-29; Bible Institute Grounds, Green Lake, Wisconsin, August 2-12; Camp Sierra, 55 miles east of Fresno, California, August 16-26.

An exceptionally strong faculty will instruct, challenge and inspire those in attendance this year. One of the leaders will be Dr. E. Stanley Jones, who will return from India to participate in all four Ashrams.

Bible study will be conducted by Dr. John W. Bailey, Baptist Divinity School, Berkeley, California, at Camp Sierra; Dr. John Biegeleisen, Eden Theological Seminary, Webster Groves, Missouri, at Bynden Wood; Dr.

Chester Warren Quimby, Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Iowa, at Green Lake; and Dr. Shelby Rooks, Saint James Presbyterian Church, New York City, at Winnepesaukee.

World Evangelization Hour leaders will be: Margaret Applegarth, World Council of Churches, at Bynden Wood; Dr. Charles T. Leber, Executive of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., who has accepted tentatively for Winnepesaukee; and Dr. John Oliver Nelson of the Federal Council, who has tentatively agreed to serve at Green Lake.

The Rev. G. Byron Deshler of Pasadena, California, will be the Director at Camp Sierra and Dr. H. H. McConnell, Department of Evangelism, will have the oversight of the other three Ashrams.

The Ashram furnishes an ideal "Vacation with a purpose" for the ministers, church leaders and others who are interested in a more vital Christian life and a more effective Christian service. Those who are interested in further information regarding becoming a member of an Ashram this summer are asked to write to H. H. McConnell, Department of Evangelism, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.



A weekday class member watches a blind girl reading the Christmas story in braille.

Weekday Projects Show Progress of Children

PUPILS RAISE MONEY FOR BOOKS, CHICKENS

BLIND children in the schools of Los Angeles and nearby communities have their own books of Christmas stories this year for the first time, because other youngsters their own age, but without the handicap they had, learned their Christian lessons well. In the released time classes in Los Angeles' Weekday Church School, 7,000 children are learning more than facts and the correct answers to questions. They are learning to make a practical use of the Christian principles they have been taught.

The weekday teachers, searching for a "yardstick" to measure the progress their pupils were making in their religious education, have given the children an opportunity to use their own initiative by participating in a number

of service projects during the year.

In the late fall of 1946 someone in the Los Angeles classes happened onto the fact that no book of Christmas stories had ever been brailled. The idea of raising money to braille some books caught fire and the campaign began—with the stipulation that only money saved through self-denial would be acceptable. During the next several weeks the children brought in their money—pennies, nickles, dimes and occasionally a quarter . . . until \$274 had been collected. Then early last fall the money was turned over to the Braille Institute, which made the book plates and brailled 160 books. More books can be brailled at any time from the original plates.

At Christmas, 1947, each blind child

in the Los Angeles schools received a copy of the book, and sixty-six copies were sent to the School for the Blind in Berkeley. Into the book went Christmas stories familiar to every child—the Bible stories of Christmas from Luke and Matthew, the traditional "A Visit From St. Nicholas," and a number of other stories of religious and seasonal significance.

The thoughts of the children in the weekday classes upon seeing the finished book and realizing its meaning to the boys and girls whose sensitive fingers would translate the raised dots into pictures were voiced by little Johnny who burst out, "Gee—and to think, I pretty near spent my quarter on a picture show!"

The children's enthusiasm for helping others hasn't exhausted itself on one project. They saved their money to buy chickens to send to China. They found that for \$5 they could buy five hens and a rooster—and they raised \$250 in all, "for kids that haven't ever tasted eggs."

One little girl who asked her teacher if all the schools had religious education classes and was told that there wasn't enough money for each school to have them, said, "We ought to do something about that, when we like these classes so much ourselves." They did—and by the end of the year they had brought in \$324—nearly enough to run two classes for two semesters.

The youngsters turned in 2,000 pairs of shoes for Church World Service. And after seeing a Church World Service poster with pictures of undernourished children overseas, they began their project to "Change Their Faces." A contribution of 25 cents could "change the face" of a child. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas last year the children brought in \$550—enough to change the faces of 2200 children. One boy who sold newspapers brought a five dollar bill—and his parents verified the statement that it was his own wish to give it all for the children overseas.

Once aware of the needs of others, these children have responded with a practical demonstration of the truths taught them. The "yardstick" which the weekday teachers devised has proved a valuable measurement of their growth in Christian love and understanding.

The weekday classes, now in their fourth year in Los Angeles, are conducted in 156 elementary and eight junior high schools, and last year served approximately 10,000 boys and

girls. The curriculum is planned by the Christian Education Department of the Los Angeles Federation of Churches, and carried out by the staff of 21 teachers.

In many cases it has been found that the schools make possible a job of parent education. Through the use of study and prayer materials, the teaching gets into the home. Parent response to special programs has been gratifying.

Commenting on the success of the weekday release-time classes, the annual report edition of *United Church Progress*, published by the Church Federation of Los Angeles, says:

"Weekday Christian Education has been the means of uniting the religious forces of the community, Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish in a common service. It has united the Protestant churches by bringing together the boys and girls of over 500 churches in co-



Los Angeles release-time pupils on their way to a weekday class.

operative classes in Christian education. Further, it has opened the door

to greater cooperation between the public school and the church."

Oregon Council Takes New Life

WITH its annual meeting in February, the Oregon Council of Churches opened a new chapter in its program as it set new goals, shared the inspiration of several great evening meetings, and reviewed its own progress. Held at Salem, Oregon, February 10-12 in the stately Colonial buildings of the First Presbyterian Church, the meetings were more widely representative than they have ever been before.

Sessions of the Oregon Council of Church Women were held at the same time.

SPECIAL REGIONAL NEED

Both Dr. Henry Sloane Coffin, the main speaker, and Dr. Chester W. Hamblin, president of the Council, highlighted the peculiar situation of Oregon Christianity. "Let no one tell you the frontier of the Church is across the seas," Dr. Coffin declared: "Our churches are surrounded by paganism in every community we serve." Dr. Hamblin, pastor of the Presbyterian church in Salem, pointed out that "In Oregon only 22.6 of the population is related to any religious group of any kind, while within the past several years 1,300,000 new arrivals have also confronted the Christian forces within the state. Such a situation leaves the old competing, uncoordinated programs of the Church

completely inadequate. Only through such an integrated agency as our Council of Churches can we even approach such a problem."

As Executive Secretary of the Council, Rev. Gilbert B. Christian of Portland reported a most promising beginning of his activity within the state. The program of vacation Bible school, teacher's institutes, and services for migrants, reported by the various chairmen responsible for these emphases, built up into an account of new proportions. Particularly the steady work of the Committee on Legislation (keeping careful check on state governmental measures) and the forthright program of the Committee on Social Education and Action provided records of achievement. An enlarged budget was adopted with new promotional effort and publication undertaken to secure it.

VARIED EMPHASIS IN MEETINGS

Two morning addresses by Professor Jack Finegan of Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, dealt with "The Reality of Christ" and "The Kingdom." Both were unusual historical presentations which served to unite completely the diverse membership of the Council, in which the Salvation Army as well as the Protestant Episcopal Diocese was represented. The unanimous reception given to Dr. Coffin's address, analyz-

ing world need and the Christian answer, was a similar unifying factor.

Representing the Federal Council staff were Dr. J. Quinter Miller, and Dr. John Oliver Nelson. Dr. Miller's address pointed to the historic achievements of ecumenical action at the present time. Dr. Nelson's field was enlistment and adequacy of the ministry.

Bishop Francis J. McConnell stressed the ethical appeal of a Christian world order. At a laymen's dinner in the First Methodist Church, Judge Arlie G. Walker of McMinnville made an appeal for Christian vocation among laymen. Miss Amy Ogden Welcher of Hartford, Connecticut, who was introduced by Mrs. Max Reeher, President of the Oregon Council of Church Women, spoke dramatically of the success of Church World Service. Dr. Ralph Walker of the First Baptist Church in Portland closed the sessions with a call for new unanimity in the Christian witness.

VOTING

The Council went on record on behalf of the European Recovery Program and the President's Civil Rights Committee Report, recording its opposition to universal military training. Dr. Hamblin was reelected president of the Council for the coming year, with Rev. John C. Nevin succeeding Dr. J. Boyd Patterson as secretary.

The program chairman for the convocation was the Rev. Myron C. Cole, minister of the First Christian Church, Portland, Oregon.

UNITY STUDY MEETING

APPROACHES to Christian Unity were made the basis of study at the eighth annual Ecumenical Conference of Protestant Church Leaders of the United States and Canada, held at Washington, D. C., January 1-3, 1948. The conference was convened under the auspices of the American Committee for the World Council of Churches, in cooperation with the College of Preachers at the Washington National Cathedral.

Manuscripts on each of the suggested approaches were prepared by a panel of from three to five churchmen, and presented by a representative of the panel. The suggestion presented by Dr. J. Quinter Miller, Associate General Secretary of the Federal Council, was the "extension and deepening of cooperative Christian unity through delegation of further corporate functions and responsibility by member communions to the representative agency." Dr. Miller said in part:

"The assumption is that each communion needs to clarify its intention to function henceforth more fully through such a representative agency nationally as the proposed National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America and through similar inclusive church councils in states and cities. Appropriate action would be:

"This communion desires henceforth to carry forward its work unitedly with other evangelical communions in the field of Research, Radio, Public Relations (including relations with Government), Worldwide Relief, Counseling on Church Architecture, State and Local Cooperation, Weekday Religious Education, Curriculum Production and Distribution, Church Extension and Adjustment, United Ministry in Government Projects, Ministry to Migrant Populations and Program Coordination. These functions are therefore delegated to the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, said functions to be transferred as rapidly as the National Council is prepared to accept them. This communion further engages to accompany this assignment with such financial support as will provide its fair share of the cost of this cooperative work."

"When this action has been taken by the appropriate communion agency, the long-deferred action calling for the

delegation of certain executive powers to the representative agency will thereby be authorized and a most significant next step toward extending and deepening Christian unity will have been taken. The Federal Principle will become operative within the councilial process for those corporate functions which communions voluntarily choose to commit to their representative body. This body could be the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, entrusted at the time of its formation with certain administrative powers, which the member communions voluntarily choose to delegate thereto and which as members they corporately control."

A report on "negotiations looking towards a union of the United Church of Canada and the Anglican Church in Canada" was given by Dr. Gordon A. Sisco, General Secretary of the United Church of Canada.

Others prominent in the unity discussions were Dean Luther A. Weigle of the Yale Divinity School; Dr. Douglas Horton, chairman of the American Committee for the World Council of Churches; Dr. Mark A. Dawber, General Secretary, The Home Missions Council of North America; Dr. Ivan Lee Holt, Bishop of the Methodist Church; Dr. Truman B. Douglass, Executive Vice President, Board of Home Missions of the Congregational Christian Churches.

Homes and Churches to Mark Family Week

Churches throughout the country will take the lead in the observance of Family Week this year from May 2 through May 9, marking the special event with sermons, worship services, programs and conferences dealing with the home. Radio programs, articles and news stories will also carry the emphasis to homes and communities over the nation.

Dr. L. Foster Wood, executive secretary of the Federal Council's Commission on Marriage and the Home, is chairman of the Intercouncil Committee on Christian Family Life, which is sponsoring the annual observance for Protestants. In announcing the observance, he said: "The purpose of Family Week is to challenge our American people to create homes which will be a blessing to the men, women

and children in them. Such homes will provide a firm foundation for our national life."

The Intercouncil Committee represents the Federal Council of Churches, the International Council of Religious Education and the United Council of Church Women. It joins with representatives of the Jewish and Catholic faiths in sponsoring Family Week. The Protestant theme for the week will be, "Christ, the Center of Home Life."

"Family Week features our greatest institution, the home," said Dr. Wood. "Our happiness, our emotional security, and the well-being and guidance of our children depend on it. If our homes succeed, everything else has greater value. If they fail, nothing can make up for the loss. Wreckage of homes is now accumulating too fast. When our homes are wrecked, we are a part of the wreckage."

Practical suggestions for observance of the week in home, church and community are offered in a folder prepared by the Intercouncil Committee and available from the International Council, 203 N. Wabash Avenue, Chicago 1, Illinois; from the Federal Council, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York City 10; and from denominational offices or local councils of churches at \$1.75 per hundred copies.

Scholarships Offered By N. Y. City Mission

In view of the great need for professional leadership in Christian work, the New York City Mission Society is offering a limited number of graduate scholarships to men and women who expect to give their lives to Christian service in the city.

The scholarship will enable the recipient to combine practical experience in city church work with postgraduate study in one of New York's educational institutions. Academic study is to be chosen and study carried on under the supervision of the Executive Staff of the New York City Mission Society.

During the nine months of the academic year supervised field work is to be carried on in one of the centers maintained by the Society.

Each scholarship will consist of a grant of \$1,200 for the twelve months, and will be renewable for a second year at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee.

Applications should be filed by April 1. Blanks and details may be secured by addressing Miss Ida H. Button, New York City Mission Society, 105 East 22nd Street, New York 10, N. Y.

Sixth Alcohol Studies School to Convene at Yale in July

THE 1948 Summer Session of the Yale School of Alcohol Studies "will take even greater account of special professional interests than the preceding summer course," E. M. Jellinek, Director of the School, recently announced. The last two weeks of the four weeks' course will be devoted, he said, to special studies centering around the professional needs and interests of each of the various groups attending the School.

The Federal Council's Department of Pastoral Services has been invited for the sixth year to act as the agency through which the various denominations may submit nominations of pastors to attend the School. It is anticipated that places for fifty pastors of local churches will be available in the 1948 session.

The selection of pastors for admission to the School is made by the School itself but nominations are made by the Department of Pastoral Services on the advice of a national official of each of the 25 denominations which have thus far had representatives in attendance at the School.

This form of cooperation was initiated in 1943; and in the five sessions already held since that time nearly 300 churchmen have attended. In addition to the ministers' group the School also encourages the admission of many other community groups concerned in one way or another with alcohol problems including teachers in secondary schools and colleges, temperance workers, physicians and psychiatrists, social workers, probation officers, judges, members of liquor control boards, and even some persons representing the alcoholic beverage industry. It is expected that 150 persons will attend the School in 1948.

The work of the School consists of two types of program. There are, first, the general lectures and discussions giving the factual background on many aspects of alcohol, always followed by general questioning and discussion of each lecture. Second, there are the special sessions and seminar groups at which opportunity is provided for each particular group of students to consider the implications of the facts from the point of view of their own particular interest. A special seminar for the ministers' group will

be held again in 1948.

Registration for the School will be held this year from July 9-11 and the course itself will begin on the evening of July 12. The sessions will be held for four weeks, closing on August 6. The School meets on the campus of the Divinity School of Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

Those ministers of local churches interested in making application for admission to the 1948 School may secure application blanks and other information by writing to the Department of Pastoral Services of the Federal Council, 297 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y. or by writing to the appropriate official of their own denomination. In any case applications must be submitted with proper denominational endorsement before April 15.

A few scholarships are available for 1948 to assist those to attend the School who might not otherwise find it possible. Some of these scholarships cover the tuition charge of \$100 and a very few of them provide a larger amount in order to defray the cost of room and board.

The interest of Yale University's Laboratory of Applied Physiology in research and education on alcohol problems dates back many years. Some fifteen years ago the present director of the Laboratory, Howard W. Haggard, M.D., concluded that research and study on alcohol problems could not be carried out most effectively unless the focus of concern were widened beyond the realm of physiology to include also such studies as psychology, medicine, sociology, law, religion, and the like. Accordingly about ten years ago Dr. Haggard began to assemble a group of specialists on alcohol representing many professional points of view and headed by Dr. Jellinek who is a psychologist and statistician in background. An imposing research staff has since been developed, and research constitutes the major activity of the Yale alcohol enterprise.

In order to study more effectively the therapy of alcoholics and other persons with serious alcohol problems, two pilot clinics were established a few years ago in New Haven and Hartford respectively. These clinics, under

the control and supervision of the Yale group, are setting forth a standard for such therapy and service which is already being widely emulated by groups all over the country interested in providing similar service.

The Yale group has also given encouragement and backing to the recently formed National Committee for Education on Alcoholism headed by Mrs. Marty Mann. This group is concerned with stimulating local action all over the country in the direction of educating people as to what alcoholism is, how its victims may be helped and how all kinds of public spirited citizens in the community can cooperate to this worthy end. Many local chapters of this group are now functioning actively. These groups confine their alcohol education activities to a concern for alcoholism itself, believing that other aspects of alcohol education should properly be handled by other groups in the community.

Churchmen who have attended the Summer Session of the School have testified uniformly to its value in providing background information representing the latest and most comprehensive research studies. In a field so complex as that of alcohol they believe it important that any group concerned to improve the existing situation should have a thorough factual basis upon which to work. The objectivity of the School in presenting all the relevant facts has been widely commended by these churchmen. Although individual lecturers at the School may sometimes take a personal stand on some of the controversial questions, the School itself does not take any stand in regard to any question about which controversy exists. This has made the School valuable to persons who approach the alcohol problem from somewhat different points of view. —SEWARD HILTNER

COUNCIL BUYS PARSONAGE

The St. Joseph County Council of Churches in Indiana, faced with the problem of finding a home for their executive secretary, has purchased a parsonage, thus offering the same courtesy to their executive secretary as that offered by churches to their pastors.

In a statement announcing the purchase, the Council has said, "What is a necessity at this time will prove to be a worthwhile investment for the future. The stability, dignity, and permanence of our cooperative work is thereby dramatized and secured."

Economic Life Meetings Are Held in Four More Cities

THREE recent developments are of special interest in the continuing follow-up of the 1947 Pittsburgh Conference, on the Church and Economic Life.

First, the Council of Churches of Greater Cincinnati held its conference on January 16 and 17, and the Michigan Council of Churches held one in Flint over the weekend of February 4-6. In the former meeting the opening session had addresses on "The Church's Responsibility in Relationship to Economic Life." The ministers' point of view was presented by Rev. Gerson Engelmann, the economists' point of view by Dr. Henry Lyman Greer, and the laymen's point of view by Mr. Charles P. Taft. The bulk of the conference program, however, was devoted to section meetings.

In the Michigan Conference about 100 delegates came from churches in 20 communities throughout the state. The speakers in the opening session on Friday evening were Dr. Clair K. Searles, Dean of the School of Business Administration of Toledo University, Ohio, and Rev. L. B. Moseley, First Baptist Church, Pittsburgh; at a fellowship luncheon on Saturday Dr. Raymond W. Miller, immediate past president of the American Institute of Cooperation, spoke; and at the service on Sunday morning Rev. Cameron P. Hall preached at the Central Methodist Church which was the host church. Throughout Saturday the delegates met in three sections, each group discussing successively, "In what way are Christian principles of freedom endangered in our economic life?," "How are the Christian principles of security to be achieved in our economic life?," and finally "What can be the program of the church in economic life?" The chairman of the Committee on Report was Dr. Paul S. Heath, First Presbyterian Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan. Professor Herman Wyngarden, Department of Economics, University of Michigan, was the conference chairman.

Second, the first One-Day Institute on the Church and Economic Life was held in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., on January 13 under the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches in cooperation with the Department of the Church and Economic Life. The visitors were Mr.

Frank W. Pierce, vice-president of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey; Mr. Tilford E. Dudley, assistant to the director of the Political Action Committee of the Congress of Industrial Organizations; Dr. Mark Dawber, Home Missions Council; and Rev. Cameron P. Hall. In the morning Mr. Pierce and Mr. Dudley spoke to the ministers. Mr. Pierce stressed the primacy of the human factor in industrial relations, and Mr. Dudley emphasized the impact upon the worker's family of the rising cost of living. After a fellowship luncheon Dr. Dawber and Mr. Hall spoke to the ministers who had been joined by lay leaders of local church groups and organizations. Their general theme was methods of education and action in economic life by local churches and their members. Also throughout the afternoon some 35 lay men and women met informally, by special invitation of the council of churches, to discuss economic conditions in the Wyoming Valley and the responsibility of the churches to them. Mr. Dudley and Mr. Pierce acted throughout as special resource leaders. In the evening a public meeting was held at the Central Methodist Church in which the visiting leaders spoke on the theme "The Christian Conscience and Economic Life."

Third, the Weekend Conference of the Chicago Church Federation has resulted in its own follow-up. Since it met November 21-22, a substantial number of its delegates have met twice to discuss further matters on the original conference agenda. This continuing group under the chairmanship of Mr. Frank W. McCulloch of the faculty of Roosevelt College, is working on a statement that will represent agreement based upon careful study and full discussion.

Report Church Canvass In 37 New Communities

Karl K. Quimby, Cultivation Secretary of the Board of Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Church was re-elected for the third successive year as Chairman of the National Planning Committee of the United Church Canvass at the Annual Meeting of the interfaith organization in

New York City on January 16. Rabbi Ahron Opher of the National Synagogue Council of America was chosen Vice-Chairman and Rev. Earle B. Pleasant, National Director of the group, was elected Secretary.

Great progress was reported by the Director in his summary of the activities for the year 1947. More than twice as many communities have indicated interest in developing the United Church Canvass plan than have heretofore used it. 37 new communities conducted united efforts for the first time last Fall at such varying points as Keene, N. H.; Auburn, N. Y.; Walla Walla, Wash.; Honolulu, Hawaii; Ada, Okla.; Reading, Pa.; and Gatun in the Canal Zone. 402 other prospective communities were reported by the Director in addition to the more than 300 cities already a part of a plan for the past half-dozen years.

Other activities mentioned included nearly 10,000 announcements over local radio stations which were contributed through national commercial radio sponsors over 62 network programs during the three-week religious emphasis period last Fall. Also, a church attendance promotion recording with outstanding radio and movie stars participating, including Raymond Massey and Walter "Red" Barber, was produced and extensively used in 93 communities.

Any community desiring information on the United Church Canvass program or on how to participate in it, may secure it by writing to the National Office of the United Church Canvass, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

EVANGELISM DEPARTMENT BEING FORMED AT GENEVA

Dr. Elmer G. Homrighausen, professor of Christian Education at Princeton Theological Seminary and chairman of the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches, has gone to Geneva, Switzerland to start work on the formation of a permanent department of evangelism for the World Council of Churches.

Dr. Homrighausen will work in close cooperation with the Reconstruction Department of the World Council, and will travel in many countries on the continent. His aim will be to promote spiritual reconstruction, revival of morale in the churches and among the masses, and to stimulate interest in the ministry and the Church's work.

New Secretary



REV. George Dennis Sale Kelsey, Ph.D., was elected by the Executive Committee of the Federal Council at its meeting in Atlanta, January 13, to the position of Associate Executive Secretary in Field Administration.

Dr. Kelsey, who is now serving as Director of the School of Religion of Morehouse College, Atlanta, will relinquish this work to take up his new responsibility with the Federal Council July 1, 1948. The phase of Field Administration which constitutes Dr. Kelsey's primary responsibility is presenting and interpreting the Federal Council's total program plans and resources to the various state and area denominational meetings such as Associations, Conferences, Conventions, Consistories, Dioceses, Presbyteries and Synods, and the special and annual meetings of state, city and county councils of churches and ministerial associations. It will thus be Dr. Kelsey's purpose to share in strengthening, extending and deepening the participation of communion and church council bodies in the total functional interests and program plans now being developed through the departments and commissions of the Federal Council of Churches.

A survey of the rich and varied background of experience and service which helps equip Dr. Kelsey for this significant new ministry in Ecumenical Administration will help to introduce him. A native of Georgia, Dr. Kelsey was graduated as valedictorian of the Cabin Creek High School. As an

honor graduate, he received the A.B. degree from Morehouse College. As a high honor graduate, he received the B.D. degree from Andover-Newton Theological Seminary and the Ph.D. degree from Yale University. He has held fellowships from the General Education Board and from the Julius Rosenwald Fund and the Charles Foster Kent Fellowship on Religion in Higher Education.

Dr. Kelsey is a member of the Providence Baptist Church of Atlanta, Georgia, and was ordained in that church to the Christian ministry in August 1938. He is a member of the Fellowship of Southern Churchmen, the Young Men's Christian Association and the National Protestant Council on Higher Education. As a student assistant in the Robert Gould Shaw Settlement House in Boston, he was appointed Head Counselor in the Shaw House Summer Camp. During 1944 he was Visiting Professor on the Summer School faculty of the Andover-Newton Theological Seminary. In September 1945 Dr. Kelsey was appointed Director of the School of Religion of Morehouse College.

His journalistic writings include articles on "The Nature of the Christian Ethic," "Protestantism and Democratic Inter-Group Living," "The Nature of the Christian Life," "Christian Love and Race Relations" and "The Christian Way in Race Relations."

FORTSON JOINS AYER AGENCY

John L. Fortson has resigned as public relations director of the Federal Council to take a position in the radio department of the N. W. Ayer advertising agency in New York City.

Mr. Fortson joined the Council's staff in 1940, and in 1941 directed publicity for the National Christian Mission, traveling with the team of speakers to all of the metropolitan centers in the United States.

Returning to the Federal Council in January, 1946, after serving three and a half years in the Navy, he assumed the responsibilities of managing editor of the BULLETIN, and later conducted the weekly NBC program, "Religion in the News" in addition to directing the publicity and public relations work for the Council.

Mr. Fortson was 1947-48 president of the National Religious Publicity Council.

"How to Make Friends for Your Church," by Mr. Fortson, published in 1943, is standard in its field.

Council Notes Growth in Religious Education

In a recent report to the BULLETIN on the growth of week-day religious education in Virginia since 1930, the Virginia Council of Churches stated:

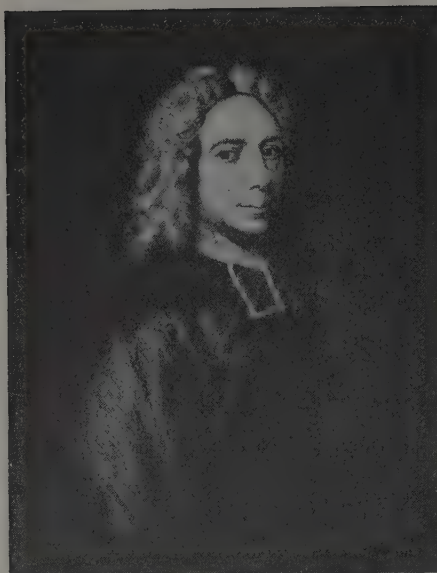
"Under the leadership of Minor C. Miller, one of our major projects of Christian Education continues to be week-day religious education. The record speaks for itself. Week-day religious education was started in Virginia seventeen years ago with only two teachers instructing 1,411 children in four school divisions. The initial program cost \$3,600.00 in 1930.

"This year we have 102 teachers instructing in 52 school divisions embracing 436 communities where a total of 67,131 pupils are enrolled in religious classes. The approximate cost of the program is \$160,000.00 for the current year, with an average cost per pupil of \$2.38. It is significant that 97 per cent of all pupils enrolled in the public schools where week-day religious education is offered volunteered to enroll in these classes.

"Amazing as this growth has been, it is even more impressive to note that for some years now the Department of Christian Education has exerted no particular effort to promote the extension of week-day religious education in Virginia communities. It has been busy responding to the numerous requests for guidance and assistance in organizing and conducting religious education classes in our schools throughout the Commonwealth. It may be truly said that the week-day religious education movement in the Old Dominion is a grass roots movement.

"The growth and expansion of a religious education program in Virginia has attracted considerable attention outside the confines of our State. During 1947, demands for textbooks and curriculum material prepared and used for our program have come from 33 states in the Union, Alaska, Canada.

"Demand by our people for the type of program conducted by the Department of Christian Education indicates that week-day religious education is not only growing in Virginia, but is here to stay. And it is encouraging to note that many teachers now employed in this work are planning to make teaching of religion their profession and life work. Professional status of such instructors is being aided by the inauguration last year of a pension plan and of certification of teachers."



To Celebrate Isaac Watts Bicentennial

UNDER the leadership of the Hymn Society of America, and with the cooperation of the Commission on Worship of the Federal Council of Churches, plans are going forward to make 1948 a "Watts year" in celebration of the 200th anniversary of the death of this famous hymn writer. James Montgomery, himself a famous hymn writer, bears this testimony, "Dr. Watts may be called the inventor of hymns in our language, for he so far departed from all precedent that few of his compositions resemble those of his forerunners, while he so far established a precedent to all his successors that none have departed from it otherwise than according to the peculiar turn of mind in the writer, and the style of expressing Christian truths employed by the denomination to which he belonged."

George Macdonald, the well known Scotch novelist, ventures this prophecy, "Some of his hymns will be sung, I fancy, so long as men praise God together; for most heartily do I grant that of all hymns I know he has produced the best for public use."

Dr. Watts is widely considered the father of modern hymnody. He departed from the customary Psalm singing of his day and the liturgical plain song to give us the kind of hymns

which make up our present hymn books. Our generation and many others owe him a deep debt of gratitude.

Among the many famous hymns of Watts' which are widely sung today are, "Our God, our help in ages past," "Joy to the world! the Lord is come," "Jesus shall reign where'er the sun," and "When I survey the wondrous cross."

It is suggested that sometime during the year various interested groups such as local churches, councils of churches, ministerial associations, Y.M.C.A.'s, Y.W.C.A.'s, local choirs, music clubs and others arrange some form of observance. One of the most appropriate of these is a Watts Hymn Festival either in a local church or as a community project, at which the favorite hymns of Watts will be sung and an address given on his life and influence. The regular morning and evening services of local churches give opportunity for emphasizing Isaac Watts and his hymns, and stressing the value of good hymnody in worship. Study groups may be developed among church and musical organizations. Youth groups may wish to devote programs to a study of hymns and congregational singing. Other forms of observance will suggest themselves from the situations in the local community.

The focal point of the year's observance is November 25, 1948, which is the 200th anniversary of Watts' death. This is Thanksgiving Day; and it would be fitting to sing Watts' hymns at the service on that occasion. Hymn festivals and other celebrations could be held on a Sunday as near that date as convenient.

A Commemorative Order of Worship suitable for use in local churches or community services has been prepared by Rev. Philip S. Watters of the Drew School at Carmel, N. Y., and may be obtained at 2 cents each in quantity, with sample copies free. A pamphlet has also been prepared by Prof. Norman Vincent Hope of Princeton Theological Seminary entitled "Isaac Watts and his Contribution to English Hymnody." This costs 15 cents. Orders for these two items of literature should be sent to the Hymn Society of America, c/o the Commission on Worship, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. Further inquiries regarding the observance should be addressed to Dr. Reginald L. McAll, Executive Secretary of the Hymn Society, 2268 Sedgwick Avenue, New York 53, N. Y.

NEW CWS RELIEF GOAL DOUBLE THAT OF '47

The goal of \$34,740,000 in relief funds and supplies—set by Church World Service for 1948 shipments—has been described by Dr. A. Livingston Warnshuis, executive vice-president, as "greater than anything the American Churches have ever attempted." "It is \$20,000,000 larger than the program accomplished in 1947," he said.

In urging American churches to attain the proposed goal, Dr. Warnshuis declared "the presence of the Christian impact in the effort to build the peace of the world is critical. Unless the Christian Church does its utmost to help accomplish a new world, humanity will not soon again be impressed by the Christian teachings. Our behavior in the next ten years will have an age-long effect upon the future of Christian work, and upon the direction of civilization."

The total amount, Dr. Warnshuis said, includes \$23,950,000 in funds to be raised through participating churches and \$10,790,000 in contributed supplies. The relief is earmarked for European churches, for Asia, for the homeless of Europe and for displaced churches, with certain amounts being allotted to each cause. Funds for the European churches will be allocated for youth work, religious education, lay training centers and seminaries, relief supplies, evangelistic work, aid to ministers and for temporary church buildings and repairs.

Part of the \$23,950,000 in funds will come through the American Overseas Aid—United Nations Appeal for Children Campaign, in which Church World Service is participating through a special projects division for child welfare and displaced persons.

The 1947 total for relief supplies and funds to Europe and Asia through CWS was \$14,500,000, contributed by the more than 30 national denominational and interdenominational groups, by city and state interchurch groups, and by individuals.

Other 1947 activities of Church World Service included work among refugees and displaced persons. Nearly 1,170 DPs were helped to enter the United States and were aided in resettling in 32 states and 124 communities.

About 30 foreign students were also brought here for a year's study in American seminaries. Scores of others received scholarships for study in other countries.

Delegates From 25 States Attend Cincinnati Meeting

SOME 150 directors and supervisors of Protestant homes for the aged in many sections of the United States met at Cincinnati, Ohio, on February 20 and 21, to discuss their common problems and share their experience.

The National Conference on Protestant Homes for the Aged, sponsored by the Federal Council's Department of Christian Social Relations, brought together for the first time a large number of the persons responsible for the administration of homes for the aged, and many denominational executives and government and private agency representatives concerned with such homes. The delegates—representing 15 denominations and one interdenominational agency—came from 25 states, the District of Columbia and Canada, to attend the meeting.

The two-day program had been planned in panel sessions, with ample time for discussion by the delegates, following the addresses of the speakers.

Discussing "Religious Ministry in the Protestant Home for Older People," Rev. J. L. Cedarleaf of Chicago reviewed the types of ministry now being given in homes and, in suggesting ways to improve that ministry, recommended that a training program be set up to prepare clergymen for this specialized type of work. He also asked for a clarification of the functions of chaplains in such homes.

Miss Margaret Wagner, Executive Director of the Benjamin Rose Institute in Cleveland, Ohio, said, "With the increase in numbers of aged in the community, the numbers making application for admission to private homes are increasing. These applicants, however, are for the most part suffering from some major or minor chronic illness.

"The private institution of the future, if it is to meet the community need, will have to give greater consideration to those suffering from a chronic disease which may not necessarily make them invalids."

Speaking at the same morning session, Dr. Edward J. Steiglitz of Suburban Hospital, Bethesda, Maryland, spoke on the topic, "Must the Aged Be Parasites?" Declaring that the

major tragedy of age is uselessness, Dr. Steiglitz said: "Boredom from inability to know how to utilize leisure causes more discontent and unhappiness in the second forty years than discomfort. 'Boredom is avoidable. Only foresight and effort are needed. Excess leisure today is not limited to the very well-to-do. With the five-day week and modern mechanical aids in the mechanics of living, the investment of leisure is a problem for millions of people. They need guidance, for they lack imagination and self-confidence—both elements badly battered by present educational methods and state and federal paternalism. There is great risk in creating unnecessary dependency among the elderly, mentally as well as economically."

Mr. Ben Grossman, Executive Director of the Home for Aged Jews, in Chicago, stressed the need for recognizing the relation of the home to the community. He commented, "Today homes for the aged are social agencies, like all other agencies interested in the welfare of its people, and a part of the total community welfare program. Today, institutional care for the aged has a very important and vital place in a modern program. The home is no longer an 'almshouse' or a custodial institution. It is a therapeutic agency, for social, recreational, occupational, and medical therapy. Since the federal, state and local welfare organizations impinge on the program of the home, the home must have a firm professional and social community plan.

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"We who are interested in and direct the program in homes for the aged must recognize that what we do is not done in an ivory tower. *We should always be aware that we are working in a community.* In the community is a network of services developed for the care of people who need help. The home for the aged can only be considered as one part of this network of services. Like all other agencies working with people, it cannot isolate itself from the total community, for those who support and serve the institution have definite ties in the general community."

Other speakers discussed "Social Security for Older People", "Problems of Admission" and "Problems of Finance."

At the final business session of the conference, held on Saturday morning, the delegates voted to set up a continuing committee to carry on the work begun at the meeting and to plan other conferences for the future.



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Massachusetts Council Offers Course To Seminary Students

"Action Research in Church and Community" is the title of a new field-work class to be offered by the Department of Research and Planning of the Massachusetts Council of Churches for students of three theological seminaries in Greater Boston during the second semester of the current school year.

Selected graduate and undergraduate students from Andover-Newton Theological School, Boston University School of Theology, and the Episcopal Theological School in Cambridge will be eligible for the course and will receive credit from their respective schools for its successful completion.

Conducted by the Rev. William J. Villaume, S.T.M., M.S. and the Rev. Glen W. Trimble, B.S.T., the course will consist of eight class sessions and supervised field work. Orientation to the function and operation of a council of churches will be offered at the first session by Dr. Frank Jennings, executive secretary of the Massachusetts Council. Three succeeding classes will be concerned with the philosophy and problems of "action research," evaluation of recent research projects, and the relevance of group-work principles to research and planning.

Students will then be assigned for field work to group projects directly related to the current efforts of the Council's research department. All students will have opportunity to participate in a religious census for which prior instruction will be given.

The last three weeks of the semester are to be devoted to classes for field-work evaluation. Findings of the groups will be examined and compared to reveal the resources of the churches in relation to the needs of the congregations and the community. Plans for achieving joint action by the churches will be discussed.

This cooperative project of the seminaries and the council is expected to offer many values to the students, among which are the following:

1. Orienting the student to the functions and operation of a council of churches.
2. Providing the student with an opportunity to gain a working knowledge of community resources, particularly of specialized agencies which ordinarily collect and develop data of significance to the churches.
3. Providing opportunity for the students to become acquainted with the community organization and group work processes employed in leading the churches of a community to engage in joint study and planning to meet common problems.
4. Providing the student with a working knowledge of the techniques for organizing and conducting a religious census.
5. Helping the student form habits of objective analysis and synthesis based upon accurate observation of social and ecclesiastical phenomena.
6. Helping the student to understand the effects of social and economic forces upon the church as an institution and to gain insight into the processes of institutional adaptation.
7. Helping the student to observe the total needs of a community and to appreciate the relevance of the churches' resources to those needs and to the resources of other institutions in the community.
8. Helping the student to grasp elementary research procedures and to gain experience in interviewing; gathering, compiling, evaluating and interpreting data; and presenting it graphically to lay people.

Radio Programs— March

SUNDAYS: Dr. Arthur Acy Rouner, "Radio Chapel"—WOR only—9:30-10:00 A. M.; Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, "National Radio Pulpit"—NBC—10:00-10:30 A. M.; Dr. John Sutherland Bonnell, "National Vespers"—ABC—1:30-2:00 P. M.

MONDAYS: Dr. Winfield Burggraf, "Gems for Thought"—ABC—8:45-8:50 A. M. and 11:30-11:35 P. M.; Dr. Robert J. McCracken, "Faith in Our Time"—MUTUAL—10:15 to 10:30 A. M.

TUESDAYS: Dr. Wendell Phillips, "Gems for Thought"—ABC—8:45 to 8:50 A. M. and 11:30-11:35 P. M.; Dr. Arthur Acy Rouner, "Faith in Our Time"—MUTUAL—10:15 to 10:30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS: Dr. Allen E. Claxton, "Gems for Thought"—ABC—8:45 to 8:50 A. M. and 11:30-11:35 P. M.; Dr. J. Richard Sneed, "Faith in Our Time"—MUTUAL—10:15 to 10:30 A. M.

THURSDAYS: Rev. Samuel M. Shoemaker, "Gems for Thought"—ABC—8:45 to 8:50 A. M. and 11:30-11:35 P. M.

FRIDAYS: Dr. Arthur Henry Limouze, "Gems for Thought"—ABC—8:45 to 8:50 A. M. and 11:30-11:35 P. M.

SATURDAYS: Dr. Walter W. Van Kirk, "Religion in the News"—NBC—6:15-6:30 P. M.

EVERY DAY: "Minute of Prayer," 6:00 A. M.—WOR—New York only.

(All times given are Eastern Standard Time)

CHURCH VOCATIONS ARE DISCUSSED BY YOUTH

With joint planning by the Commission on the Ministry there have recently been two area Conferences. Following the pattern set by the Commission, these conferences are for older high school and college youth, not just those committed to church vocations, but those who show particular promise as leaders.

IN CHICAGO

Meeting on January 31, the Saturday of Youth Week, the Conference in Chicago was sponsored not only by the Commission but by the Chicago Church Federation, the area Inter-seminary Committee, United Christian Youth Fellowship, and a group of five seminaries in the vicinity. It brought to the downtown Chicago Temple some 200 young people of many communions.

After worship led by young people, Dr. John Oliver Nelson, director of the Commission, gave the opening address on "Church Vocations in a New Day." Denominational groupings followed, with discussion of specific openings and responsibilities encountered in these church vocations.

Dr. Roy L. Smith, editor of the *Christian Advocate*, addressed the group on the theme of qualities and training needed for church vocations, after which interest groups took up the following specific areas of concern: enlistment program for pastors, the rural ministry, college work and chaplaincy, church work overseas, women's work in the church, town and city ministry, ministry to the underprivileged.

As the final speaker, Dr. Douglas Horton, executive of the Congregational Christian Churches, pointed to the high goal of Christian vocation in every worthwhile job. Worship led by seminarians on the theme, "Where Can I Best Serve?" terminated the program in late afternoon.

IN OREGON

Together with the Oregon Council of Churches and the Portland Youth Council, the Commission helped set up a similar conference for the Oregon area on February 14 at Lewis and Clark College, representing a half-dozen communions. The young people were addressed by Dr. Nelson, by Chaplain John B. Harrington of Lewis and Clark College, and other area

leaders. Taking part in a panel representing the varied types of church vocations were: Rev. Paul Keyser and Miss Gladys Lawther, staff representatives of the student YMCA and YWCA; Professor H. Saxe Tuttle and Miss Ruby Peregrine of the Lewis and Clark faculty; Rev. William E. Genne, Chaplain of Pacific University; Professor Harrington and Dr. Nelson. Like the Chicago Conference, that in Oregon is planned, as an annual occasion, under the sponsorship of the Council of Churches.



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Other Northfield Conferences scheduled for 1948 are: Girls, June 16-23; Missionary, June 25-July 3; Christian Endeavor, July 3-10; Religious Education, July 14-23; United Presbyterian, July 24-31.

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CANADA CAMPAIGN OF VISITATION EVANGELISM REPORTED SUCCESSFUL

At the request of Dr. J. R. Mutchmor, Secretary of the Department of Evangelism and Social Service of the United Church of Canada, Dr. H. H. McConnell of the Department of Evangelism recently spent two weeks in Canada in Visitation Evangelism Campaigns. This is the third successive year that this invitation has been extended and accepted.

The first campaign this year was held in Belleville, Ontario. In spite of below zero weather during the entire time, the workers won 524 decisions for Christ and the church. This is an incomplete report, and with the follow-up program which was accepted by the ministers and workers it is hoped to double that number by Easter.

The following week, in a campaign in Toronto sponsored by Toronto East Presbyterian Church in which several Baptist churches also participated, the committee in charge reported there would be more than 1,000 decisions when all the reports were made.

Last year one of the centers for a Visitation Evangelism Campaign was Peterborough, Ontario. One of the participating churches was the First Baptist, Rev. Ivan Morgan, minister. On the first Sunday in March, 1947, this church received 125 new members as a result of the campaign. Special emphasis was given to building these new people into the life and program of the church. Eleven months later on February 1, 1948, Mr. Morgan checked up on results and reported what happened to the 125 people received into membership. 119 of them were faithful in their attendance at church; 2 were kept away by health conditions; 2 had moved away and 2

had dropped out. 8 are now teaching in the church school and 2 are officers in the church. Mr. Morgan states that the whole spiritual level of the church's life and work has been greatly elevated by their experience in this Campaign.

Dr. McConnell left by plane for Panama on March 3rd to conduct two Visitation Evangelism Campaigns with the Union Churches of the Canal Zone.


Clemes New Director

Mr. William W. Clemes, for the past 18 months public relations director for the Veterans Administration in the Albany (N. Y.) region is the new director of Missions Public Relations Office, according to an announcement by executives of the Home Missions Council of North America and the Foreign Missions Conference of North America.

Mr. Clemes succeeds George Dugan, who resigned as director in the late fall to accept a staff position with the *New York Times*, where he is covering conventions and conferences of religious organizations and writing special articles on developments in the churches.

As public relations director for the Veterans Administration, Mr. Clemes was in charge of all newspaper and radio publicity, in addition to special promotional programs. During World War II he was gunnery instructor with the Army Air Forces. Before the war he recruited personnel and served as public relations advisor for the 13th Civil Service District, Portland, Ore., and previously as information specialist with the Farm Security Administration office in that city, working in part with resettling farm families displaced by army land acquisitions.

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Denominations Note Progress in Eliminating Segregation

MEMBERS of the Race Relations Department attending the 26th annual meeting of the department on January 30, heard some 14 denominational leaders report on progress made within their own denominations toward eliminating segregation. The entire morning session of the meeting was devoted to the subject "What Has Happened Since Columbus?" in an effort to evaluate advances made since the Federal Council, at its special Columbus meeting in March, 1946, renounced segregation and pledged itself to work for "a non-segregated church and a non-segregated society."

The comments came from heads of social relations divisions, from race relations departments, from leaders in newly established interracial projects, and from local council heads. Some reported that church-owned and operated colleges and universities were for the first time opening their doors to Negroes and that in some instances the faculties had become interracial. Others announced that intercultural and interracial workshops and camps had been established, and still others noted increased employment opportunities for members of racial groups. Nearly every report indicated that youth organizations had made the most outstanding progress toward interracial fellowship and brotherhood.

Rev. J. Oscar Lee, department executive secretary, in outlining future program plans at the afternoon session, announced that the clinics on The Church and Race would be continued and developed. During the past three years, clinics have been held in 24 cities throughout the country, under the sponsorship of local church coun-

cils. Dr. Lee said that clinics held last year aided in establishing community social planning councils and in activating committees already set up. Follow-up visits in cities where clinics have been held have revealed a new consciousness of the responsibility of all community agencies for meeting racial group problems within the community, and for the development of healthy contacts between races.

Other future program projects include the publication, in cooperation with the Department of Christian Social Relations, of a study-guide on the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights for use by individual church groups; continued effort to implement the Council's Columbus resolution on segregation by a closer co-ordination of interdenominational and denominational race relations programs, and continued cooperation with religious, civic and national agencies in seeking fair governmental legislation,

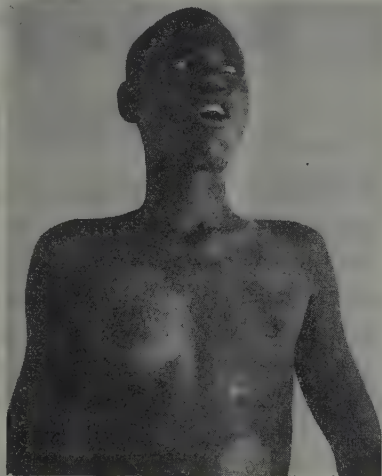
administration and equitable civil rights for all.

The program outline, as recommended by the Department, will go to the Administrative Committee for approval.

In his annual report to the department, Dr. Lee noted action taken during the past year in testifying before a congressional committee in favor of fair employment practices legislation and in furnishing information to church leaders on legislation for economic justice and civil rights for racial groups. He reported that through the publication *Program Service Memoranda* other material has been available to local church groups on Japanese-American affairs, housing, immigration, Indian affairs, segregated transportation, veterans' affairs and poll tax.

Dr. Lee reviewed the past year's activities, including the clinics held, the observance of Race Relations Sunday, the many local council visits and consultations, and publications produced.

The department co-chairmen, Mrs. Leslie E. Swain and Rev. Cleo W. Blackburn, presided over the morning and afternoon sessions respectively.



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INSTITUTES TO AID PASTORS WORKING IN RURAL CHURCHES

A schedule of schools, institutes and graduate courses available to ministers for training in rural church work is carried in the March issue of *Town and Country Church*, a publication of the joint committee representing the Home Missions Council of North America, the Federal Council of Churches, and the International Council of Religious Education.

The sessions, many of them to be held during the summer months, are for the purpose of aiding ministers to become acquainted with tested methods of town and country work and to help them in securing an understanding of the trends and problems of modern country life. In addition, the institutes and other meetings will develop fellowship among rural ministers

and will increase their contacts with agricultural leaders.

The courses, some of which are being held at present and others scheduled for later in the spring and summer, will be held in all parts of the country—in the South, the Midwest, in New England, and in Oregon, Washington, and California. They include weekend meetings as well as courses of two weeks' or a month's duration.

Some home missions boards of the individual religious bodies offer a limited number of scholarships to country pastors. Ministers interested should communicate with their boards to learn if scholarships are available and on what terms.

Reprints of the scheduled dates and places for the courses may be obtained at 5 cents each from the Home Missions Council, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

The Goodly Fellowship of the Prophets

by JOHN PATERSON

A series of brilliant historical portraits of the Old Testament prophets—their teaching, their lives, their actual personalities. A work of profound Biblical scholarship, this volume is also enriched by an engaging literary style and by a fertile historical imagination which recaptures the authentic spirit of the times and brings all these majestic figures of Israel vividly before the reader's eyes as men of flesh and blood. \$3.00

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AMONG THE NEW BOOKS

The History of the World's Young Women's Christian Association

By ANNA V. RICE, Woman's Press, \$2.00.

The primary interest of this little book is, of course, for women who are in touch with the Y.W.C.A. But many other people will find it valuable. This description of the way in which the Y.W.C.A.'s world-wide work developed is significant also since it is a part of the ecumenical movement in Protestantism. In the Y.W.C.A. it is non-ecclesiastical and, in most countries, without close, formal working relationships with the churches. Yet Miss Rice's description of the way in which the World's Y.W.C.A. became conscious of the need for its services to young women in one country after another and of the problems involved in the extension of a basically Protestant organization into Orthodox, Roman Catholic and non-Christian countries makes it evident that it faced problems that are deep in all ecumenical activities. The problem of the relation of the Y.W.C.A. to the Y.M.C.A. and to the churches of the different countries should also be of interest to a wider constituency than that of the Y.W.C.A. alone, especially at a time when there is a new interest in the women of the Church. Many of the questions that our churches must face today are very familiar to the leadership of the World's Y.W.C.A. This discussion thus, is timely whether one agrees with the Association's solution of them or not.

To this reviewer it was particularly interesting to realize that Y.W.C.A.s (under whatever name) developed in a number of different countries at about the same time, and how soon the

need for a world organization was felt. The different ways of working in the various countries and the problems this caused are also suggestive to the ecumenically-minded person.—I.M.C.

Broken Homes

By GEORGE THORMAN, Public Affairs Committee, Inc., 31 p., 20c.

"Each year more than a million American homes are broken by death, desertion, separation, and divorce. The

story of these broken homes is often tragic, for important, intimate human relationships are shattered and millions are deprived of a normal, happy family life. If we are to help others make their marriages succeed, we must find out why so many marriages are failing, why homes are being broken, and what we can do about it."

George Thorman, introducing his treatment by the above paragraph, has given valuable insight in brief compass into the divorce situation and

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by STELLA FISHER BURGESS

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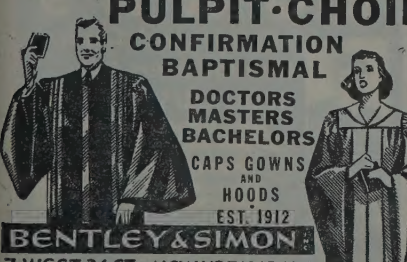
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its effect on men, women and children. "Two-thirds of all divorces are granted to women. The divorce rate in the cities is twice that in our country areas. About two-thirds of the people who obtain divorces have no children."

To cope with this situation, the author emphasizes the need of better educational preparation for marriage, careful thought, and wise counsel where necessary, in the choice of mates, better understanding by married persons of the factors which make for success and counseling services for those who are in difficulty. This pamphlet, available from the Public Affairs Committee, is also kept in stock in the Federal Council office.

—L.F.W.

The Lutheran Liturgy

By LUTHER D. REED, Muhlenberg Press, 1947. \$7.50.

It would be impossible in the short space of this review to present adequately the character and quality of this volume. All that can be done is to outline its material and commend it highly to all interested.

The introductory chapter entitled "The Mind of the Church" should be read widely. It is a telling exposition

of the essential character and uniqueness of public worship. Following this, Dr. Reed discusses in detail the history of liturgy with particular reference, of course, to the development of the Lutheran Liturgy. After this able historical presentation, he turns to examine in Part II the detail of the Lutheran Liturgy. This includes a careful examination of "The Service" in all its parts. He goes from that to a study of matins, vespers, the propers, collects and prayers, the litany, the suffrages, the bidding prayer and the general prayers. All of these subjects are approached from a broad objective viewpoint, and with a recognition of their relation to the liturgies of other communions, particularly the Anglican.

This is a monumental work, the crown of many years of endeavor by one of the most distinguished scholars and leaders in the Lutheran communion in America. For more than thirty years, Dr. Reed was professor of liturgics and church art at the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Mt. Airy, Philadelphia. He has long been active in all that pertains to the worship life of the church and the book reflects his varied and memorable years of service. It is one of the last- ing volumes of our generation. D.E.

The Christian Home Today

By THE COMMITTEE ON WOMAN'S WORK, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES, 76 pages, Fifth cents.

This little book of twelve chapters takes up pertinent and challenging topics centering in home life. Each chapter presents its thought about the home in such a way as to stimulate thought and promote discussion. Each is signed by its author, for in this project several women have collaborated.

Such problems are presented as meeting the changes in the world, achieving maturity, maintaining Christian atmosphere, family interests and hobbies, the relation of the family to church, community and the world. Chapters are devoted to Sunday, to special occasions, to the uses of money and the budgeting of time.

The common threads that run through the book are the emphasis on the preciousness of home ties, the greatness and the beauty of the task of homemaking and the sense of God as the Giver of these ties of home and our Helper in achieving homes which bear witness to Him and meet the needs of men, women and children. L.F.W.

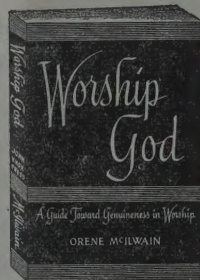
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The Churches and the European Recovery Plan—Complete text of the Federal Council's Executive Committee resolution on the proposed Marshall Plan. 5 cents per copy.

Community Help on Pastoral Problems—A new joint publication of the Department of Pastoral Services and the Department of Christian Social Relations. Written by John L. Mixon and Seward Hiltner, it is a discussion for ministers in local churches both urban and rural as to how to make most efficient use of the health and welfare resources of their community and region. 49 pages; 25 cents a single copy.

Service of Worship for Isaac Watts Bicentennial—Order of worship for the observance of the 200th anniversary of the famous hymn writer. 2c per copy, from the Hymn Society of America, care of the Committee on Worship at the address indicated below.

Copies of the above publications may be obtained from the Federal Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

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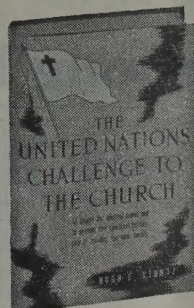
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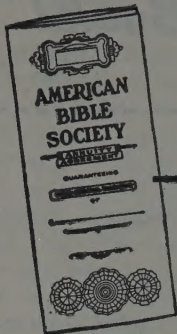
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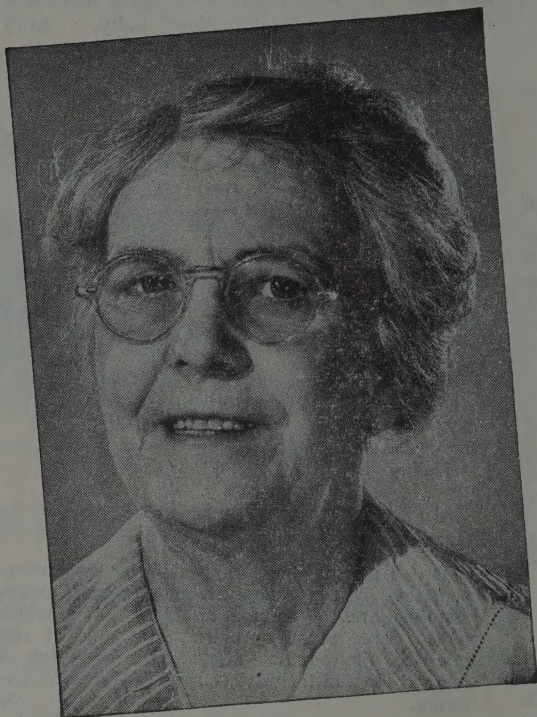
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